

# WASHINGTON CITY.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1869.

## OUR DIFFICULTIES WITH PARAGUAY AT AN END—INDEMNITY GRANTED.

The New York Herald, of yesterday morning, publishes the gratifying intelligence, that the difficulties between this government and Paraguay, which have excited so much newspaper comment, and furnished so many opportunities for covertly attacking the President and his administration, are at last adjusted without bloodshed, and without any of those serious consequences which, at one time, there was reason to apprehend. This information was received by the British brig Ann McKean, which arrived at New York on Tuesday last from Pernambuco, and, if it be true, there is great cause for congratulation. It appears that Commissioner Bowlin was very materially assisted in his efforts to secure this satisfactory result, by President Urquiza, who, in his communication, to the government of the Argentine Confederation, sets forth this fact very prominently. We are not disposed to disparage his efforts; we are confident that his influence and representations are aided largely in hastening the conclusion, but, when all the facts are reported, we believe it will be found that the American representative fully justified the expectations of the President, when he was selected for that important post. We give in another column the details, which will be found of peculiar interest at this time.

## EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

The attitude of the world, at the present writing, is certainly far from peaceable, and more disturbed than it has been for years past, if, indeed, there has ever been a period marked by the existence of so many diplomatic ruptures, and the expeditions and gigantic preparations for defence which characterize the movements of certain European powers. All Europe seems to have taken the alarm, and its effect upon industry and commerce will be felt for many succeeding years. The large sums which are lavished so unsparsingly by the different governments will cause an increase of taxes, thus adding to their difficulties and embarrassments, and to the burdens of the people, who have to pay them. But these evils are trifling when compared with those that would be inflicted by actual hostilities. History teaches that wars, instead of advancing nations in power and importance, have depressed trade, paralyzed industry, and disordered the public credit. A nation which has engaged in war, whether successful or not, has always required a peace of several years standing to recover her exhausted resources and wasted energies.

Looking at the complicated condition of European affairs in this light, we are gratified with the peaceable tenor of the latest news. A Congress of the great powers has been called to settle all differences; and since there is a disposition to permit negotiation and diplomacy to fight the battles of armies, an opportunity will be afforded to commerce to recover from the repeated shocks of the last few months. It appears that the resignation of Prince Napoleon has been regarded as a favorable sign of the peaceable intentions of the French government, and the Emperor of Austria is quite willing to evacuate the Papal States simultaneously with France. If the result of such an act should expose the Pope to danger from the revolutionary party, the return of the French troops to Rome for the purpose of protecting him would not be regarded with jealousy. On the contrary, it would be taken as an evidence of the continued good faith of Louis Napoleon. There is, then, seemingly no cause for a continued apprehension of hostilities, and were it not for the defensive preparations of Austria and Sardinia, in the face of the amicable sentiments attributed to them, we should shortly expect to find Europe more anxious for internal prosperity than outward conquests, only to be gained by great sacrifices of blood and treasure, and which may cost more to keep than they are really worth.

## THE STATE CANVASS IN KENTUCKY.

The canvass in Kentucky for State officers has commenced in earnest. Hon. Beria Magoffin, the democratic candidate for governor, has published his list of appointments, commencing at Lebanon, in Marion county, on the 20th instant, and it is estimated that he will make forty-eight speeches. The election will take place on the 1st of August next, and from the past successes of the democratic party in that Commonwealth, we are enabled to assert, with some degree of confidence, that Mr. Magoffin will be triumphantly elected. In fact there has been but one party in Kentucky since the death of the old whig party. For a time, the know-nothings contested the ground with the democracy, but since the disasters of the last presidential campaign, they too have abandoned the field, and now the opposition are composed almost entirely of men animated by no principle, and seeking only the defeat of the democratic party, and the ruin of their country. Such an object as this never can be successful with a people who have ever been loyal to the constitution and the best interests of the confederacy.

The opposition candidate, Mr. Bell, has been invited to meet Mr. Magoffin on the stump, but the Louisville Courier seems to think that he will not do it, for the reason that the know-nothings, to which party he belonged, as a general rule, are not anxious to meet their opponents on the stump for the discussion of political questions. The Courier might have added that such politicians are not used to so much freedom, rather seeking the privacy of a dungeon and the secrecy of the midnight hour, where they can count their forces and develop their principles without the fear of opposition. Whatever may be the exertions of their opponents, whatever of influence or money may be used to compass their defeat, we confidently expect the democracy of Kentucky to make a clean sweep in August next.

## THE THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT IN LOUISIANA.

The Baton Rouge (La.) Daily Advocate, of March 22d, speaking of the contest in this district for Congress, says that Gen. Albert G. Carter, of East Feliciana, and Judge J. L. Stirling, of West Feliciana, are put forward by their friends for the democratic nomination. The friends of Hon. T. G. Davidson will also press his claims upon the convention for renomination.

We learn from the Oxford (Miss.) Mercury that Mr. George Oliver, charged with killing his negro man, has been held to bail in the sum of \$5,000 for his appearance at the next term of the criminal court.

## BOSTON WATER.

The Cochituate water has been let out again, and the people of Boston are consequently rejoicing in the possession of their accustomed beverage and ablutions without stint. We presume they have been taught the true value of their cheap luxury, and will hasten to use it in the purification, not only of their persons, but of their morals and politics.

## FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

New York, (Tuesday Night),

April 5, 1869.

The apparent defeat of the democratic party in Connecticut is not attributable to any weakness of the strength of the republicans, or any want of zeal on the part of the democrats, but to the most audacious system of fraud and deception, bribery and corruption, ever practiced at any election in any part of the Union. The fact is that the republicans saw that they were to be elected only if they must be beaten. In three, and probably all four congressional districts, they employed such a calamity to befall them, all hope of realizing their cherished scheme, the election of Galusha A. Grow as Speaker, was gone; and they decided, as honest means must fail, to try all the dishonest artifices of which they were capable. They succeeded in gaining their object, cost what it might in money and morality. A friend of mine who lives in Connecticut, and who voted yesterday at New Haven, told me that every sort of bogus ticket was thrust into his hand, and all of them were represented as the real democratic tickets. Every dollar was counted to every false representation, and oceans of money were spent by the republican leaders, who went in person to attend to the business and see that the cheating was done *secundum artem*. It has triumphed; the jacket-swinging opposition have succeeded in defeating the popular will, and can now amuse themselves in dividing the spoils. Their organs are cheering over the victory. Long calls with all their might, and seem as much elated as if they had achieved a legitimate success in the most legitimate manner.

The charter election in Brooklyn took place to-day, and notwithstanding the fact that I have not been able to ascertain the official result, but the universal belief is that the democrats have carried everything against the united opposition. I do not think that there is any doubt of it. Had we been thus united in November, one of the strongest democratic constituencies in the Union would not now be cursed by a black republican representative in Congress.

We learn by telegraph from Albany that the proposed bill, called a "personal liberty bill," the object of which was to nullify the law of the United States, was defeated in the house of assembly to-day by a vote of 55 yeas to 44 nays. The American and the English Whigs, whatever might be the consequences of such a measure, however, upon her Majesty's government they would rest. And with respect to party or personal objects, it was his duty not to attend to such charges, but to pursue the course which, in his judgment, was best adapted to the interests of his country.

Lord John Russell concluded a very long speech by declaring his most determined hostility to the bill; that he should oppose it at every step, careless of any imputations which might be cast upon him, and that, having defended parliamentary reform when he was young, he should not desert it now when he was old.

Lord Stanley replied that, if this amendment prevailed, the result would be that there would be no legislation on the subject during the present session of Parliament, adding:

No political party was now against reform. Since 1851 he had been engaged in the cause, and he would continue to be so, and the present government, after eight years of promise, that a vote was asked to be taken upon the question. The object of the resolution was to prevent the House from expressing an opinion upon the second reading of the bill; it was framed ingeniously so as to catch the largest number of votes possible. The question it raised was whether the bill should pass into law, or whether political power should pass into other hands. That was the real issue. He asked what was meant by the working classes, and what was meant by saying they were excluded? He contended that all of these classes would come within the scope of the bill, which was more favorable to them than Lord John's own bill.

The difficulty of admitting working men to the franchise was to find a principle of selection. There were two tests—education and a low personal property qualification. Upon the subject of the disfranchisement of small boroughs, he observed that a large disfranchisement would give rise to the question of the distribution of seats and to other difficulties. The identity or uniformity of the franchise for counties and boroughs was objected to; but unless it was adopted there would always be a discontented class, and the lower the franchise in boroughs was made, the larger would be the discontented class. He asked upon what principle the distinction between the county and borough franchise rested? The one, it was founded upon property, and the other upon real property; but it ignored all forms of property except real property; the Chancery clause made the inconsistency greater, and the lower the franchise was made, the more intelligible ground. The bill, he believed, could be amended in the committee. He believed that, looking at the subject in a practical point of view, the choice lay between a comparatively small and moderate bill and no bill whatever.

Several other members took part in the debate, and the discussion was to be continued on the following evening.

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# THE WASHINGTON UNION.

NEW YORK.

## THE REFORM MOVEMENT IN GREAT BRITAIN.

On the evening of March 21, in the House of Commons, Lord John Russell moved the amendment to the reform bill, of which he had given notice. The House was densely crowded and the liveliest interest was manifested in the discussion. The amendment was in the effect that it is neither just nor politic to transfer, in the manner proposed in this bill, with the freehold franchise as hitherto exercised in the counties of England and Wales; and that no readjustment of the franchise will satisfy this House or the country which does not provide for a greater extension of the suffrage in cities and boroughs than is contemplated in the present measure.

He considered that the first eight lines of the bill contained its whole principle—namely, that the suffrage in counties and boroughs should be uniform, or, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer expressed it, identical, and that all freeholders residing in boroughs who had hitherto voted for their own representatives should be entitled to do so. It was a complete change of the constitution, a destruction of rights which had been enjoyed for a great number of years, and without any crime on the part of those in possession of it. This change was not only unjust, but it was a great public injury, as it would deprive the counties of the liberal character they would otherwise possess, and a power would be obtained by which small boroughs might be flooded with voters, and nomination boroughs be revived, to the practical repeal of the reform act.

His objections to the first clause, therefore, were that it would be injurious and unjust; that it would lead to great disorders of the law; that it would transfer the power who were freeholders, and to a great power of nomination in boroughs, and that the only remedy for the evil it would create would be to resort to electoral districts. In discussing the second part of the amendment, Lord John explained the reasons for his objection to the subject of a limitation of the franchise, and put it to the House whether there should not be a reduction of the limit in towns, so as to admit the working classes, suggesting that it should be not according to rating, but to annual value, as in the reform act.

Anticipating the objection to his amendment, that it was irregular to propose this resolution, upon the second reading of the bill, believing the bill was of a most unjust, unjust, and dangerous character, his reason, he said, was that there were matters in the bill which he approved and supported, such as the £10 occupation franchise for counties. But that was not the chief feature in the bill; its chief feature was contained in the second clause. As to the apprehension of a dissolution, he held it to be unworthy of that House to be frightened from a performance of its duty by such a suggestion. He should not be afraid, he said, to appeal to the people upon this question. Let the government go with this bill in their hands, and let the people decide.

Whatever might be the consequences of such a measure, however, upon her Majesty's government they would rest. And with respect to party or personal objects, it was his duty not to attend to such charges, but to pursue the course which, in his judgment, was best adapted to the interests of his country.

Lord John Russell concluded a very long speech by declaring his most determined hostility to the bill; that he should oppose it at every step, careless of any imputations which might be cast upon him, and that, having defended parliamentary reform when he was young, he should not desert it now when he was old.

Lord Stanley replied that, if this amendment prevailed, the result would be that there would be no legislation on the subject during the present session of Parliament, adding:

No political party was now against reform. Since 1851 he had been engaged in the cause, and he would continue to be so, and the present government, after eight years of promise, that a vote was asked to be taken upon the question. The object of the resolution was to prevent the House from expressing an opinion upon the second reading of the bill; it was framed ingeniously so as to catch the largest number of votes possible. The question it raised was whether the bill should pass into law, or whether political power should pass into other hands. That was the real issue. He asked what was meant by the working classes, and what was meant by saying they were excluded? He contended that all of these classes would come within the scope of the bill, which was more favorable to them than Lord John's own bill.

The difficulty of admitting working men to the franchise was to find a principle of selection. There were two tests—education and a low personal property qualification. Upon the subject of the disfranchisement of small boroughs, he observed that a large disfranchisement would give rise to the question of the distribution of seats and to other difficulties. The identity or uniformity of the franchise for counties and boroughs was objected to; but unless it was adopted there would always be a discontented class, and the lower the franchise in boroughs was made, the larger would be the discontented class. He asked upon what principle the distinction between the county and borough franchise rested? The one, it was founded upon property, and the other upon real property; but it ignored all forms of property except real property; the Chancery clause made the inconsistency greater, and the lower the franchise was made, the more intelligible ground. The bill, he believed, could be amended in the committee. He believed that, looking at the subject in a practical point of view, the choice lay between a comparatively small and moderate bill and no bill whatever.

Several other members took part in the debate, and the discussion was to be continued on the following evening.

The Neapolitan exiles arrived at Bristol on the evening of Saturday, March 19. The banks of the river and all the landing quays were crowded with spectators, who cheered them on their way up to the city. It is estimated that 10,000 persons turned out to welcome them.

The condition of the English papers represent that trade in Paris is almost paralyzed by the long uncertainty about war or peace, and that a large disfranchisement would give rise to the question of the distribution of